

CLAIMS:

1. A meta data category specifying types of web applications and services.

2. A meta data category according to claim 1, wherein said meta data category comprises a plurality of functional identifiers, each functional identifier denoting a specific type of application or service available via the world wide web.

3. The meta data category of claim 2, wherein each functional identifier comprises one or more keywords identifying a type of application or service being offered by a web based provider.

4. The meta data category of claim 2, wherein each functional identifier is written in a task description language describing the functionality of the application or service.

5. The meta data category of claim 1, wherein the category is provided in a searchable area of a web page.

6. A method of building up a portal to information and applications on a network comprising:

retrieving content from one or more data sources, and
presenting the retrieved content to a user's web browser (216), wherein the retrieved content presented to a user includes information concerning web applications and/or services, said information being retrieved on the basis of a dedicated and searchable meta data category relating to web application and/or service types.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising analysing an input user query to detect a desire for retrieving web applications and/or services, retrieving content from one or more data sources that match the user query and presenting the retrieved content to the user's web browser (216).

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8. A method according to claim 6, wherein the step of retrieving content from data sources comprises filtering content and applications from said one or more data sources to match such content with a user query or user profile (226).

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9. A method according to claim 6, wherein the web browser (216) is configured to deliver information to the user based on a user profile (226), so as to personalise the portal.

10 10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the user profile (226) is constructed based upon implicit feedback from information originating from the user and delivered by the browser (216).

11. A method according to claim 6, wherein in the step of retrieving content, said content is retrieved based directly upon a user query and such content includes one or more links to application and/or service providers identified by said one or more functional identifiers.

12. A computer program product (200) being arranged for causing a processor to execute the method of any of claims 6 to 11.